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THE INTELLIGENCER.

WHEELING, JUNE 7, 1899.

Henderson to be Speaker.

As predicted by the Intelligencer some weeks since, the western Republican representatives in the new Congress have been able to control the matter of the election of the new speaker. Attention was called to the effect that Colonel Henderson, of Iowa, might be able to obtain sufficient strength among the westerners to make his selection practically certain, since they constituted a virtual majority of the Republican side of the house. But Colonel Henderson has done even better than that. Not only did he receive an overwhelming endorsement from the western representatives, but eastern leaders have come to his support in order that the choice may be as harmonious and unanimous as possible. The practical decision of the New York representatives to vote for Henderson, instead of Sherman as was intended, is due to the general sentiment for Henderson, whose election is regarded as inevitable.

This practically settles the contest in advance of the meeting of Congress, and averts anything like a possibility of a struggle or a prolonged struggle over the control of the house or among candidates for speaker. The situation will have a double effect. It shows clearly that there is a unity and harmony of feeling among the Republicans of the new Congress, and a desire to avoid anything that might be construed as a factional contest. It also shows that the purpose is to choose a speaker who is in perfect accord with the administration, in order that the President may not be embarrassed by an antagonistic house in the settlement of the great questions which are to come before the Congress for final action, and which will have so vital a bearing on the future history of the country.

Our Foreign Trade and the Tariff.
"Our foreign exports this year," says the Register, "will probably foot up \$1,500,000,000. And yet the Republicans use to talk about the home market being supreme and sufficient." There are two points in this simple assertion, and both of them are retro-active, so far as the political application is concerned. No Republican or protectionist ever contended that the home market was "supreme and sufficient," in the sense the Register uses the term.

The contention was that a protective tariff was designed to prevent the home market from being flooded by the products of cheap labor in Europe, in competition with the products of our American producers. The great resources of this country, it was urged, would in time be developed by this wholesome policy to a point when, not only would the accomplishment of the main purpose be realized, but our products would command the attention and patronage of foreign consumers. This has all come to pass. Within a month past the British manufacturers were reminded of this very forcibly by Mr. Andrew Carnegie, in an interview which appeared in Birmingham and London papers.

The second point, which is retro-active, is that the Register, innocently perhaps, by its admission of the wonderful development of our export trade with foreign countries, which will this year reach the unprecedented figure of one and a half billion dollars, destroy the former contention of the Democracy that the tariff policy of the Republican party was an invulnerable wall which would keep us out of the markets of the world. That was the foundation of every argument for free trade. When the Dingley bill was pending the Democratic opposition in Congress and the Democratic press, solemnly assured us that it was "worse than the McKinley bill," and that it would bring about a retaliation from Europe that would keep us out of the foreign markets. How false these predictions were the Register admits in the little paragraph above quoted.

To make stronger the point of the falsity of free trade predictions concerning the foreign trade, a brief comparison is in order. On the grounds above cited the only Democratic tariff bill we have had in the past forty years was passed in 1894, the Wilson bill. The bill became a law in August of that year, so that for the fiscal year ending with June, two months previous, the tariff rates were under the McKinley act; the excess of our exports over imports was \$23,145,956, the total exports being \$892,140,572. In 1892, the most prosperous year under the McKinley bill, the total exports had been \$1,693,278,118, with the excess over imports slightly less than 1894.

The year ending June 30, 1895, ten months of which the Democratic tariff was in force, the exports were but

\$507,528,165, and the excess of exports over imports dwindled down to \$75,563,200. The total exports were \$232,740,953 less than 1892. That was the year that, according to Mr. Wilson's predictions and Democratic logic, the "markets of the world" should have opened its arms, for the awful "tariff wall" had been torn down and everything was wide open. In the year ending June, 1896, the Wilson bill being still in force, the excess of exports over imports only increased to \$102,882,256. In July, 1897, the Dingley bill was enacted, the last year of the Wilson bill having expired the previous month, showing an excess of exports over imports of \$286,263,145, the total exports being \$1,050,993,556.

Then came the change. For the year ending June 30, 1898, under the present tariff, the exports were \$1,231,482,320, an increase of nearly two hundred millions over the last Wilson year, while the excess of exports over imports jumped to \$615,431,676, an increase over the previous year of, in round numbers, \$323,000,000. This year the estimate of total exports, still under the Dingley "wall," is one and a half billion dollars, being an increase of another three hundred millions.

All this should be enough proof to demonstrate the entire failure of the theory of the "tariff reform" prophets of the past, who made the "wall" argument so conspicuous in the campaigns.

Canada and Uncle Sam.

Some American papers fancy they see an easy settlement of the boundary dispute between the United States and Canada, which is the subject of so much discussion and is becoming an embarrassing question. The settlement proposed does not involve the merits of the case, but is a revival of the old idea of Canada coming into the family of the United States. The New York Sun, for instance, in a leading article holds that the boundary dispute shows "the monstrous absurdity of the existence of a boundary." It doesn't understand why there should be a boundary or any other matter for the two countries to wrangle over, and says:

"The people of this republic and of the Dominion are at heart the same, and in their origin akin. They speak the same language, and their social order is founded on the same principles. In this respect England is also like Canada and the United States, but Canada and the United States have an unequalled bond in being side by side on the same continent."

Was a people ever before so cold to the land it lives in? Was there ever a country so stubborn an enemy of itself as Canada?

The Sun is an ardent supporter of the expansion idea, and it is only natural that it should be favoring the idea of the annexation of Canada. Granting that the proposition is wise, and it is undoubtedly popular with many Americans and Canadians, it is not likely that it would be violently opposed by our so-called anti-imperialist friends, since their main objection to the Philippine policy is that it is a distant and separate territory. They justify the annexation of Texas and all our great western country which was ceded to us from France and Mexico, on the ground that they were not detached territory and were naturally a part of our country. Canadian annexation might be advocated on that same ground.

As to the general benefit to Canada in the event of annexation, the Sun suggests that the "day after Canada discards a foreign governor general, and chooses her own governors, as do the states of the American Union, her language and subordination will change into life, prosperity and power, and in raising her own flag—the stars and stripes—she will feel the first thrill of patriotism." The question is asked how much longer the great northern territory is going to leave the citizens of the United States the monopoly of being Americans. The question is pertinent to the subject, but a more pertinent one is, how is all this glorious result to be brought about? What will England have to say about it? And would the people of Canada be willing?

With the temperature hovering about the 100 mark there is no use to complain. Those who are forced to keep right along with their daily duties, just as they are at all other seasons of the year, will have to endure the discomforts as cheerfully as possible. Man must earn his bread by the sweat of his brow, but there are several months in the year that he is exempt from the law. In these days, now beginning, nature gets even with him by including, not only his brow in the sweating process, but his whole system.

Out in Lewis county a bicyclist, who was a beginner and had not learned to guide his wheel properly, caused the death of two persons, the fatal injury of another, two of the three being women, and the crippling of a child, by attempting to pass a carriage containing the victims in a narrow road on a hill side. The driver stopped his horses at one side of the road, and requested the wobbly wheelman to dismount. The young man would not do this, the wheel ran against one of the horses, and there was a runaway, with the above result.

It has at last been decided that the steamer Paris, recently wrecked on the Manacle rocks off Cornwall, is a total loss, and the insurance adjusters have given up all hopes. The underwriters will bear a great deal of the loss incurred by the wreck of the big steamer. They will be obliged to pay over a million dollars on the ship alone.

British troops stationed at Halifax mutinied and created a serious riot in which blood was shed, in resistance of an order to have their hair cut in a particular way. They were finally overpowered, but there is no telling what may happen to the barbers who undertake to carry out the hair-cut order.

There was consternation among Wall street brokers Monday over a report that Russell Sage had died suddenly from the effects of excessive heat. But Russell himself denied the story and the commotion subsided. Russell Sage doesn't permit his blood to become fatally warm.

To-morrow Wheeling will welcome home from Cuba Company G, of the Fourth United States Volunteer Infantry, and it is going to be a welcome that will make the hearts of the officers and men feel good. Such a homecoming reception has been seldom given to

a single company; this will be such a one as is usually accorded an entire regiment. So much the better. When Wheeling sets about to do anything patriotic she doesn't half do it, but make it a memorable occasion and a complete success.

CIVIL SERVICE ORDER

Of the President—Most Objectionable Features Swept Away.

Washington Post (Ind.): The President, we fancy, is concerning himself very little with the abuse and reproaches now heaped upon him, because of his recent civil service order. It was to have been expected that the yellows and the Mugwumps would assail him with frenzy. He counted upon upon that, and being a man of singular equanimity and good sense, he has not permitted it to disturb his mind. The rational and intelligent people of the country are with him, and the result will be his vindication.

Even if there were involved in this order nothing more than the undoing of Mr. Cleveland's deplorable work of four years ago, it would still be a righteous and just act. Under Mr. Cleveland's administration hundreds and hundreds of government employees were ejected and filled by political partisans of his. He became selfish as to their "merit," after he had installed them by favor. His civil service order, subsequently proclaimed, did not contemplate any demonstration of their fitness. That order was issued merely to perpetuate their incumbency. It was inspired by the spirit of the merit system about as much as nightmare is distinguished by order and coherence. Mr. McKinley, however, has spoken for reason and propriety and the welfare of the public service. He has beneficently destroyed many of the most abominable and silly features of the civil service establishment. The idea that responsible officials should have to go to a board of school masters for their private secretaries; that financial officers should have to get their deputies from Mr. Bruce's commission—these and many other ideas quite as stupid have been promptly and effectually disposed of.

There is one strong argument in favor of the civil service institution. It relieves the President, his cabinet officers and members of Congress from the importunities of campaign workers who seek the smaller and more insignificant places as their reward. Quite a large percentage of these places are better left as they are. Changes would not, as a rule, improve the situation. Indeed, for the sake of decency, and to avert the distasteful spectacle of a vulgar scramble, and to protect high officials from persecution by hungry applicants, we are ready to concede a certain usefulness to the civil service commission. But when it comes to a question of character and special fitness for responsible and confidential work, we hold the commission as a thing outside of serious consideration.

Mr. McKinley, has, as a matter of fact, strengthened the civil service institution by divesting it of its most odious and offensive features. It is easy to ascertain by reference to the past few years that the civil service commission has been steadily advancing in disfavor and distrust. Its scheme has been expanded beyond the limits of real usefulness. Its pretensions have become tiresome. Mr. McKinley has swept away the worst and most objectionable causes of irritation, and the intelligent and patriotic elements of our population will applaud and thank him.

HIS HONOR ON WIFE-BEATING.

An Arkansas Justice's Remarks Upon Sentencing an Offender. Memphis Commercial Appeal: In fining a man \$100 for whipping his wife Judge Freer, of Fort Smith, discoursed as follows:

"I am opposed to wife-beating. I have no respect for any man who will beat a woman. I am not like the St. Louis judge who saw extenuating circumstances in a wife-beating case. A man has no right to whip his wife. That is not what he married her for. No, sir; he married her to love and protect her. Doesn't she see that buttons are put on his clothes? Of course she does. Doesn't she see that his collar buttons don't roll under the dresser, and if it does, doesn't she get down on her knees and fish it out for him? Of course she does. Doesn't she cook his meals for him, and have them ready for him when he comes home, and doesn't she sit up sewing for his children or stay all night watching them when they are sick? Of course she does. And what has she done to be beaten by him? Nothing at all. Very often she makes the living and he gets mad because she doesn't make enough to enable him to wear silk ties and patent leather pumps and fill himself to the brim every night and roll home and tumble into bed and snore off his drunk like a hog."

"I tell you what it is, I can extend no mercy to the man who gets drunk and makes a beast of himself. I can have that sympathy for the man who steals, because he is often compelled to do it. I have a feeling for the man who asks for 'hand-me-outs' or who has to sleep in box cars, but when it comes to a wife-beater, I am lost to all sense of mercy. Say, do you know that I never had a man before me charged with wife-beating that that man did not have an ugly mug on him? Well, that's a fact. It takes some considerable nerve to sandbag a man or to take to beat a poor, weak woman? Bah! I get hot all over when I have one of these cases before me. I feel just like taking the man by the nape of the neck and kicking him clean out of town. I run up against a good many hard propositions while sitting on the bench, but the hardest I have is to drive the sword of justice into them deep and break it off. I am going to lambast them with all my might and main. I am going to salt all the freshness out of them, and if they do not get what they deserve it will be the fault of the law and not of me. I will fine that fellow \$100. I am glad if I had been able to fine him twice as much. The man who beats his wife wants to get out of the jurisdiction of the Fort Smith police court, at least while I am on the bench. If he doesn't want to get into the consomme away over his head, I stand squarely on that platform, gentlemen, and there is no backwater which will run me off."

Insult to Injury.

Cholly—I was walking down the avenue, dear boy, when a common woman allowed her beastly flowerpot to fall on me head.

Reggy—How painful!

Cholly—It wasn't the pain, dear boy, it was what the dreadful woman said.

Reggy—What did she say?

Cholly—She said with glad her flower pot had landed on a soft place, and didn't break.—Chicago Record.

Victoria Getting Young.

In view of the fact of the Queen's approaching visit to the continent, Englishmen are especially interested in her majesty's health. It is announced that her hearing has grown acute and her eyesight keener. Youthful faculties in old age depend merely upon the health. The blood should be kept pure and the stomach sweet with Hottel's Stomach Bitters. It cures indigestion, biliousness, nervousness, liver and kidney troubles, as well as malaria and fever and ague. It keeps people young.

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POINTED PARAGRAPHS.

It's a cold day when the palm-leaf fan gets left.

Many a man who claims to be discreet is but a coward.

Men may suffer untold privations, but women always tell them.

What some public speakers need is better terminal facilities.

First impressions are never correct—so the proof-reader tells us.

The depth of feeling displayed by the atmosphere quite touches all mankind.

Possession is nine points of the law and the attorney's fee is the tenth.

Some medicine is so disagreeable that one can't even forget to take it.

The world has more charity for dead men than it has for men who are dead broke.

"Time is money," said the poet, as his "uncle" handed him the ticket for his watch.

Self-made men and home-made furniture may be strong and reliable, but the polish is usually lacking.

Show us a man who hasn't at least one cranky idea and we'll show you a man that doesn't amount to much.

If people would stop climbing hills before they got to them there would be less of that tired feeling in the world.

An Irish philosopher says that if men could only live to hear their own funeral sermons and read their own epitaphs there would be no getting along on earth with them.—Chicago Daily News.

REFLECTIONS OF A BACHELOR.

Except in poems the woman who can win men's hearts with her freckles can dance without legs.

Maybe women worry about one commandment more than the men, because the results are so different.

It would be as sensible if a man wore an extra linen collar on his undershirt like a woman does both kinds of garters at the same time.

A man can tell his wife any story with a straight face in the morning after, until he discovers that he has been sleeping in the baby's crib.

The man who insists at the poker party that the husband is the lord and master is the one who takes off his shoes to sneak upstairs when he gets home.—New York Press.

In the Pacific.

New York Sun: When the overwhelming superiority of American arms brought us within sight of peace with Spain, the Sun pointed to Spain's cession of her entire Oriental possessions, the Philippines, the Carolines and everything she had in the Pacific ocean, as the first condition of peace to be insisted upon by the United States. The clearer our road to Asia, the easier it would be to travel. The proposition was self-evident, that all the islands lying on the American track to the Philippines, which Dewey had won in the preceding May, should be ours.

There can be but one explanation of the administration's failure to insist upon their transfer. On the same principle that the American peace commission offered to Spain the alluring gratuity of \$20,000,000 and thereby, doubtless, hastened the termination of the war, the President thought it to be the better part of wisdom to confine our demands in the East to the Philippines, already conquered. In order to get the treaty past the Democratic and crank opposition to expansion in any shape.

Now Germany, the nation of Europe in the progress of the United States rouses the sharpest hostility, has the Spanish Pacific islands between Honolulu and Manila.

The anti-expansionists see suddenly revealed to them the triumph of having barred the United States from a great strengthening influence in the Pacific, and of having subjected their country to needless vexation and dangers.

Let us leave them to their miserable success.

The milk aforesaid having been split in the East, we must be so much the more careful of the cow we have.

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